

2010 Children in the Courts

Wednesday May 5, 2010

9:00

Registration

1st Floor Foyer

Intensive Legal Track for Attorneys and Judges

10:30 - Noon

Breakout Sessions

Domestic Relations Hot Topic Discussion

Presenters: Seth Bickett, J.D., Will Trentham, J.D., Michael Martz, J.D. and Kristin Pawlick, J.D..

Room: Ambassador I

This will be a panel discussion of current issues that are relevant to domestic relations ad litem representation.

Current Issues in Juvenile Justice Cases

Presenters: Dorcy Corbin, J.D. and and Cheryl Barnard, J.D., Arkansas Public Defender Commission

Room: Ambassador II

The presenters for this session will focus on current issues that professionals in the Juvenile Justice arena are dealing with on a daily basis in the juvenile court system. Some of the topics to be discussed are general practice, EJJ, transfer hearings, violations of aftercare terms and remedies.

DN Attorney Ad Litem Relevant Law, Policy & Procedure

Presenter: Renia Robinette, Ad Litem Coordinator, Juvenile Division, Administrative Office of the Courts

Room: Ambassador III

Using what you know to get ahead of the game.

OCC Hot Topics: A rousing discussion of topics important to every OCC attorney.

Presenter: Lisa McGee, Deputy Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel

Room: Ambassador IV

A discussion of current policies, laws and practice for OCC attorneys who work in dependency neglect court.

Parent Counsel Discussion of Best Practice in Representation

Presenter: Lynn Pence, Legal Aid, Rena Roach, Parent Counsel Coordinator

Room: Ambassador V- VII

Facilitators for this session will guide participants through a discussion of best practices in representing indigent parents involved in dependency neglect cases.

Noon- 1:30

Lunch on Your Own

1:30-2:45

Breakout Sessions

Domestic Relations: Nuts & Bolts of Best Practice

Presenters: Amy Freedman, J.D., Jennifer Woodruff Douglas, J.D. and Samuel Pasting, J.D.

Room: Ambassador I & II

A panel discussion of best practices for domestic relations ad litem.

Successful manipulation-Application of the Forensic Health Evaluation: How to refute, rebut and win with a ACT III and EJJ evaluation

Presenter: R. Clint Gray, M.D., Arkansas State Hospital

Room: Ambassador III

This presentation will offer a "behind the scenes" guide to navigating the Arkansas Forensic Mental evaluation. Lecture attendees will learn how to most effectively utilize the court ordered evaluation. Strategies and tips will be offered to those attempting to prosecute or defend individuals who have received a forensic evaluation. Learn the weaknesses and strengths of competency and psychological tests.

2010 Children in the Courts

The Record on Appeal

Presenter: Keith L. Chrestman, J.D.

Room: Ambassador IV

Participants should gain: (1) an understanding of what constitutes the record for the purpose of appeal; (2) the function of the appellate court in making more plain the law as it concerns children; and (3) a greater appreciation for the attorney's duty to present to the appellate court a meaningful record.

Trust Accounts for Children in the Foster Care Program

Presenter: Steve Sorrows, DHS Eligibility

Room: Ambassador V - VII

This presentation discusses judiciary accounts for children in the Foster Care Program; including reports available, spending from the accounts and managing accounts to prevent a child's loss of eligibility for program benefits.

2:45 - 3:00

BREAK

3:00 - 4:15

Breakout Sessions

Youth Services in Arkansas: A guided tour

Presenter: Carmen Mosely Sims, Division of Youth Services Attorney

Room: Ambassador I - II

In n this panel discussion of the system of rehabilitative services administered by the DHS Division of Youth Services, three DYS insiders will present information and answer questions about residential and community-based interventions, and the division's role in cases involving DYS-committed juveniles.

Domestic Relations Ethics

Presenters: Mary White Schneider, J.D. and Jewel Holloway Harper, J.D.

Room: Ambassador III

This session will be a discussion of ethical issues that occur in the practice of domestic relations law.

Dependency Neglect Ethics

Presenter: Judge Joyce Williams Warren

Room: Ambassador IV

This session will continue a discussion of ethical issues that started at the 2009 Children in the Courts Conference.

School Searches

Presenters: Casey Beard and Brenda Stallings, Pulaski County Public Defender Office

Room: Ambassador V - VII

When are school searches appropriate? What is the proper way to preserve evidence?

2010 Children in the Courts

Thursday May 6, 2010

7:30 - 9:00

Registration-Light Breakfast

1st Floor Foyer

9:00-10:15

Breakout Sessions

Nothing About Me Without Me – Engaging You in Developing Foster Youth Transition Plans Through Mediation

Presenter: *Kelly Browe Olson, Director of Clinical Programs at the UALR School of Law*

Room: *Ambassador I – II*

Participants will discuss the new law on Foster Youth Transition Plans and how mediation can be used to engage youth in development of their plans.

How the Child Welfare System Disempowers Parents and Why It Matters

Presenter: *Vivek S. Sankaran, Clinical Assistant Professor, Child Advocacy Law Clinic, University of Michigan*

Room: *Ambassador III*

This session will explore ways in which the child welfare system alienates parents and how that undermines good outcomes for children. The session will highlight promising practices across the country to involve parents in the process and will make suggestions for both policy and practice-related reforms.

Fostering connections

Presenter: *Lisa McGee, Deputy Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel*

Room: *Ambassador IV*

A section-by-section review of Fostering Connections, the newest federal law on the child welfare in Arkansas. When applicable, references will be made to state law and Division of Children and Family Services Policy or forms implementing mandates in Fostering Connections.

Domestic Relations Case Law Update

Presenter: *David Camps, J.D.*

Room: *Ambassador V – VII*

This will be a review and discussion of recent domestic relations case law.

10:15-10:30

Break

10:30-11:45

Breakout Sessions

Dependency Neglect Case Law Update

Presenter: *Tabitha McNulty, J.D.*

Room: *Ambassador I - II*

A review and discussion of recent case law as it relates to dependency neglect court cases.

Psychological Issues in Child Custody Cases

Presenter: *Dawn P. Doray, PsyD*

Room: *Ambassador III*

This presentation will consider psychological issues including parent behaviors such as alienation, mental health status of parent, parenting strengths and weaknesses, child's behavior temperament and the interaction between parent and child when making custody decisions that are in the child's best interest.

Infant Mental Health

Presenters: *Dr. Lynn Taylor and Dr. Chris Lloyd*

Room: *IV*

A look at the development of an infant's mental health processes.

The Court Teams for Maltreated Infants and Toddlers Project

Presenter: *Darneshia Bell, Community*

Coordinator, Arkansas Pilot Court Team For Maltreated Infants and Toddlers

Room: *V – VII*

This presentation will provide insight into the developing brains of traumatized infants/toddlers and the efforts of the courts, this project and the Department of Child and Family Services to catalyze change in the way child service agencies work together.

11:45-1:15

Lunch on your own.

2010 Children in the Courts

1:15-2:30

Breakout Sessions

TIPS Great for Kids! A New Approach to Parenting Education

Presenter: Dr. Patti Bokony, Ph.D., UAMS

Room: Ambassador I – II

Each family is unique and has needs specific to them. What if parent education was designed to meet the immediate needs of the family? The *TIPS* program is designed to be immediate and available for families. Participants will be introduced to the *Teaching Important Parenting Skills: TIPS for Great Kids!*, a universal, and comprehensive parenting program for parents of young children. *TIPS* provides teacher and parent materials on a broad array of parenting topics.

How the Child Welfare System Disempowers Parents and Why It Matters

Presenter: Vivek S. Sankaran, Clinical Assistant Professor, Child Advocacy

Room: Ambassador III

This session will explore ways in which the child welfare system alienates parents and how that undermines good outcomes for children. The session will highlight promising practices across the country to involve parents in the process and will make suggestions for both policy and practice-related reforms. (repeat)

Evaluating Safety

Presenters: Therese Roe Lund, M.S.S.W., Associate Director, National Resource Center for Child Protective Services and Timothy Travis, Travis Consulting Service, Portland, Oregon

Room: Ambassador IV

Participants will leave this session with a better understanding of how to evaluate whether children can remain safely in their homes. The presenters will challenge attendees to think strategically about when and if a child can safely remain in their current living situation. (part 1)

Contempt in Juvenile Justice Cases

Presenters: Tijauna Byrd, J.D. and Heather Miles, J.D.

Room: Ambassador V – VII

Presenters will examine the difference between civil and criminal contempt. Participants will discuss what due process rights are required before the court can hold a juvenile in contempt and what options are available under the law, including the detention of juveniles.

2:30-2:45

Break

2:45-4:15

Breakout Sessions

Juvenile Offenders in the Administrative Hearing Process

Presenters: Ashley Vailes, Administrative Law Judge, DHS Office of Appeals and Hearings, Jimmie Webster, DHS Office of Chief Counsel, Pam Davidson, Arkansas State Police, Crimes Against Children Division, Charles R. Hoskyn, J.D. and Teri Hays, Managing Administrative Law Judge

Room: Ambassador I – II

Representatives from DHS, ASP, OAH, and an attorney for juveniles will discuss investigative and administrative processes for under aged and juvenile offenders.

Dependency Neglect Ethics

Presenter: Judge Joyce Williams Warren

Room: Ambassador III

This session will continue a discussion of ethical issues that started at the 2009 Children in the Courts Conference. (Repeat)

Evaluating Safety

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Room: Ambassador IV

Participants will leave this session with a better understanding of how to evaluate whether children can remain safely in their homes. The presenters will challenge attendees to think strategically about when and if a child can safely remain in their current living situation. (part 2)

Domestic Relations Probate Ethics

Presenters: Mary White Schneider, J.D. and Jewel Holloway Harper, J.D.

Room: Ambassador V - VII

This session will be a discussion of ethical issues that arise in the practice of domestic relations law. (Repeat)

2010 Children in the Courts

Friday May 7, 2010

8:00-9:00

Registration-Light Breakfast

1st Floor Foyer

9:00-10:15

Breakout Sessions

"He's seventeen. Why Bother?"

Presenters: *Jen Braun, MS, LPC, Co-Executive Officer, Ampersand Families and Michelle Chalmers, MSW, LISW, Co-Executive Officer, Ampersand Families*

Room: *Ambassador III – IV*

Plenary Session geared for CASA, DCFS, Foster Parents and Attorneys

Teens in the child welfare system have the right to develop meaningful, sustainable relationships. This session will guide participants to think about permanency and its lifelong implications for youth, and offer strategies for talking about those implications.

Strategies and lessons learned through both Ampersand Families (Minnesota's only adoption agency that focuses exclusively on the longest waiting, oldest youth in the foster care system) and The Homecoming Project will be shared. (useful for all attendees)

Domestic Relations: Custody and Visitation

Presenter: *Hon. Hamilton Singleton, 13th Judicial District*

Room: *Ambassador I-II*

Judge Singleton will talk to domestic relations attorneys about custody and visitation from the view point of the judiciary. (useful for domestic relations attorneys)

Ethical Concerns of the Dependency Neglect Attorney

Presenter: *Gerard F. Glynn, Associate Professor of Law, Director of In-House Clinical Programs, Barry University School of Law*

Room: *Ambassador V - VII*

A discussion of ethical concerns that arise for attorneys involved in dependency neglect court proceedings. (useful for dependency neglect attorneys)

10:15 – 10:30

Break

10:30-11:45

Breakout Sessions

Nothing About Me Without Me – Engaging You in Developing Foster Youth Transition Plans Through Mediation

Presenter: *Melanie Ewell, J.D. UALR School of Law*

Room: *Ambassador I*

Participants will discuss the new law on Foster Youth Transition Plans and how mediation can be used to engage youth in development of their plans. (useful for all attendees)

Disaster Management

Presenter: *Gerard F. Glynn, Associate Professor of Law, Director of In-House Clinical Programs, Barry University School of Law*

Room: *Ambassador II*

After the hurricanes in 2005 resulted in many families being evacuated from their homes into neighboring states; it became evident that the child welfare system was not prepared to deal with what happens to foster children during such natural disasters. This session will focus on these types of issues and will encourage people working with this population to know what provisions the state has made to make sure our children are taken care of in case of a natural disaster. (useful for all attendees)

Engaging Non-Resident Fathers

Presenters: *Jessica Kendall, J.D., ABA Center on Children and the Law and Lara Burce, MSW, American Humane Association*

Room: *Ambassador III*

This session discusses how CASA advocates, DCFS workers and other child advocates can better engage non-custodial fathers in child welfare cases. It will review how increased father involvement affects positive outcomes for children and will provide practice tips about how to interact with non-custodial fathers and involve them in court and case planning for their children. (useful for all attendees)

2010 Children in the Courts

Psychological Testing

Presenter: *Alicia Pellegrin, Ph. D*

Room: *Ambassador IV*

Dr. Pellegrin will outline the key components of a good psychological test, the factors that should be considered before admitting a test to evidence, and the criteria that is used to determine which test is used.

10:30 - 12:00

(please note session time)

Evaluating Safety

Presenters: *Therese Roe Lund, M.S.S.W, Associate Director, National Resource Center for Child Protective Services and Timothy Travis, Travis Consulting Service, Portland, Oregon*

Room: *Ambassador IV*

Participants will leave this session with a better understanding of how to evaluate whether children can remain safely in their homes. The presenters will challenge attendees to think strategically about when and if a child can safely remain in their current living situation.

11:45 - 2:45

Lunch on your own

CASA Awards Luncheon

12:30 - 2:30

**Ambassador Ballroom
Admittance with Ticket Only**

2:45 - 4:00

Breakout Sessions

The Perpetrators of Domestic Violence

Presenter: *Kaye Candlish, Executive Director, White County Domestic Violence Prevention, Inc.*

Room: *Ambassador I*

This session will look at the dynamics of an abusive situation and examine what determines why a person might become a perpetrator of domestic violence.

TIPS Great for Kids! A New Approach to Parenting Education

Presenter: *Dr. Patti Bokony, Ph.D., UAMS*

Room: *Ambassador II*

Each family is unique and has needs specific to them. What if parent education was designed to meet the immediate needs of the family? The *TIPS* program is designed to be available, immediate and available for families. Participants will be introduced to the *Teaching Important Parenting Skills: TIPS for Great Kids!*, a universal, and comprehensive parenting program for parents of young children. *TIPS* provides teacher and parent materials on a broad array of parenting topics.

"Let's Get it Done!" The real work of achieving permanency for teens

Presenters: *Jen Braun, MS, LPC, Co-Executive Officer, Ampersand Families and Michelle Chalmers, MSW, LISW, Co-Executive Officer, Ampersand Families*

Room: *Ambassador III*

This session provides the nuts and bolts of how we find and support families for teens, and specifically how we advocate for teens with other team members. Participants will get step-by-step help in promoting permanency for older youth on their caseload.

Gangs in Arkansas

Presenter: *Detective Todd Hurd, Little Rock Police Department, Intelligence Unit*

Room: *Ambassador IV*

Participants will learn what gangs are active in the state as well as how to determine if there is gang activity in their communities. Examples of various types of gang graffiti will be shown and suggestions of what to do should you suspect gang activity, will be discussed. (part I)

2010 Children in the Courts

Title IV-E Eligibility 101 & Medicaid

Presenter: Steve Sorrows, DHS Eligibility

Room: Ambassador VI – VII

This session will look at the eligibility factors that must be met for Title IV-E eligibility and the factors that permit the State to claim Federal Financial Participation for IV-E eligible children in State Custody

Return on Investment: The cost of not having CASA

Presenter: Shelley Hart, Program Director, CASA of NW Arkansas

Room: Ambassador V

Why should your community businesses, groups, and individuals invest in your CASA program? Because you can save them millions of dollars! Every year companies are bombarded with hundreds of non-profit pleas for financial help. Since they can't give money to everyone, make your program stand out by showing them you can actually save them money. Learn how to supplement your emotional pleas with a "Return on Investment" approach to fundraising.

4:00 – 4:15

Break

4:00 – 5:15

Breakout Sessions

How to Stop Running in Place – Moving people and programs forward

Presenter: Crystal Vickmark, Executive Director, CASA of NW Arkansas

Room: Ambassador I - II

Workshop attendees will leave with the tools needed to increase efficiency from staff and volunteer management to grant reporting.

How Can CASA Do That?

Presenters: Julian Holloway, Sate Director, Arkansas CASA Association and Virginia Jordan, Assistant State Director, Arkansas CASA Association

Room: Ambassador III

Why are CASA's invited to staffings? How can they have access to confidential information? These and other questions answered.

Gangs in Arkansas

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Participants will learn what gangs are active in the state as well as how to determine if there is gang activity in their communities. Examples of various types of gang graffiti will be shown and suggestions of what to do should you suspect gang activity will be discussed. (part II)

Court Testimony

Presenter: Marjorie Kesi, Attorney ad Litem, Frnak Wood, CASA of NE Texas, Casey Myers, FSW Pulaski County, Felicia Carter, FSW Pulaski County

Room: Ambassador V - VII

Panel discussion of providing good testimony in the court room. An experienced panel of FSWs and a CASA volunteer will share their tips for preparing for court with participants.

2010 Children in the Courts

Saturday

8:00

Registration-Light Breakfast

1st Floor Foyer

9:00 – 10:15

Plenary

From A Mother's Perspective

Presenter: Lisa McMullen

Room: Ambassador III – IV

One mother will share her experience with the child welfare system as she worked to overcome obstacles to have her children safely reunified with her.

10:15 – 10:30

BREAK

10:30 – 11:45

Breakout Sessions

Court Testimony

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The Court Teams for Maltreated Infants and Toddlers Project

Presenter: Darneshia Bell, Community Coordinator, Arkansas Pilot Court Team For Maltreated Infants and Toddlers

Room: Ambassador III

This presentation will provide insight into the developing brains of traumatized infants/toddlers and the efforts of the courts, this project and the Department of Child and Family Services to catalyze change in the way child service agencies work together.

Fostering Connections

Presenter: Lisa McGee, Deputy Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel

Room: Ambassador IV

A section-by-section review of Fostering Connections, the newest federal law on the child welfare in Arkansas. When applicable, references will be made to state law and Division of Children and Family Services Policy or forms implementing mandates in Fostering Connections.

Non-Profit Finance

Presenter: Doris Feldman, CASA Board Member

Room: Ambassador V - VII

An overview of proper financial practices for non-profit organizations.

10:15 – 10:30

Break

12:00 – 1:00

CASA Board Meeting Ambassador III - IV

Thank you for attending the conference. Please take a moment to complete your evaluation form and leave it at the registration desk.

We hope to see you at the 2011 Children in the Courts Conference!